



State of South Carolina
Office of The Lieutenant Governor

André Bauer
Lieutenant Governor

Office on Aging
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**\$350,000 Grant Award from Lt. Governor's Office
On Aging Boosts McCormick Senior Center Project**

Columbia— Lt. Governor André Bauer's Office on Aging announced today that the McCormick County Senior Center, Inc. will receive a \$350,000 state grant to help build a new Senior Center Complex in the town of McCormick.

"I've said it before, that's why I have the greatest job in the state," said Bauer. "The services and programs that this grant will support in McCormick County will make a huge difference in the lives of seniors and their families there. The fact that I get to lead a state agency that has such a huge impact on people's lives makes me love getting up and going to work every day."

News of the grant award reached Senior Center leaders just 24 hours before a scheduled groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the donation of property and a building to the community organization by Talmadge M. Knight Jr. The 12 acre parcel and 20,000 square foot former manufacturing facility adjacent to the current Senior Center property – valued at approximately \$860,000 – was deeded to the non-profit organization in May for just \$25,000.

Talmadge's gift made plans to expand the center's current programs and services for seniors in McCormick County possible, according to Executive Director Becky McDade. The \$350,000 grant from the state will go a long way toward making those plans a reality.

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When renovations to the new facility are complete, all of the Senior Center's current programs such as meals, social activities and health and wellness programs will be relocated to the "Talmadge Annex" as it has been named. New services that Senior Center board members hope to add to their current community programs include adult day care and an intergenerational child day care program.

The land between the two buildings will be filled with hiking trails, a picnic shelter, park and playground. The Senior Center's present building will become home to the Administrative Offices of the McCormick County Senior Center Complex.

Established by the South Carolina legislature in 1991, the PIP grant process uses revenue from the statewide tax on Bingo games to fund improvements to Senior and Community Centers statewide. The program is administered by the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging, and provides much needed support for the network of support services available to help older South Carolinians lead active and vital lives in their own homes and communities.